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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Free Territory of Trieste/Hungary

DATE DISTR. 15 Jan 1952

SUBJECT Presence of Pro-Cominform (Vidali) Communist Party Officials in Budapest, Hungary

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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. Mario Kozman, Political Secretary of the pro-Cominform (Vidali) Communist Party in Zone A, Free Territory of Trieste, and manager of the Party's Central Committee Library, returned to Trieste from a purported rest leave in Budapest, Hungary, on 17 October 1951. Kozman remarked to friends that he was forced to take this vacation because of overwork and nervousness.
2. Kozman is reported to have departed from Trieste on 15 September 1951¹, accompanied by a group of Trieste pro-Cominform (Vidali) Communist Party members. This group, which included Spartaco Valentinis and Armida Zobec², both members of the Executive Committee and the Control Commission of the Party, was allegedly sent to Budapest for a rest leave, which they had earned through their political activity on behalf of the Party. A large number of Party members from Italy, particularly from Rome and Milan, were also reported to be in Budapest supposedly on vacation at the same time as the Trieste group.
3. The vacationing Party members from Trieste and Italy were quartered in luxurious villas in Budapest, and were reportedly fed and feted in great style. They were also supplied with expense money during their stay in Budapest from funds contributed by the Communist Party of Hungary. It is alleged that the vacationers did not attend any Party courses or conferences during their sojourn in Budapest; nevertheless, they did go on guided tours of museums, schools, housing projects and factories.
4. Kozman allegedly spent his entire vacation in Budapest and while there he is reported to have sent his wife a postcard which bore the Budapest postmark. Valentinis and Zobec also sent postcards from Budapest to an unidentified friend in Trieste.
5. Maria Bernetic³, a prominent member of the Party, who belongs to both the Executive Committee and the Central Committee of the pro-Cominform (Vidali) Communist Party, was also reported to be in Budapest at the same time. She followed the stated group to Budapest but, instead of returning with them to Trieste on 17 October, it is alleged that she remained behind to undergo an operation at an unspecified clinic. She is reportedly expected to return to Trieste on or about 6 November 1951. Her address in Budapest during this

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time is believed to have been care of M.D.P.⁴, Dobogo Street, Budapest.

6. Ado (Aldo) Slavec⁵, President of the Union of Partisans and a member of the Executive Committee of the pro-Cominform (Vidali) Communist Party, was reported to have been absent from Trieste for at least one week. His whereabouts were unknown, although he was allegedly attending a peace conference in Salzburg, Austria.
7. Antonio Hrovatin, member of the Control Commission of the Executive Committee of the pro-Cominform (Vidali) Communist Party, and doorman at the Casa Portuale, was reported to have been absent from Trieste for approximately a fortnight during the period from late September to early October, allegedly on vacation.

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